

EVACUEE**NEWSLETTER**

Number 8

Naval Air Station Meridian

September 8, 2005

USNORTHCOM Provides Radios for Hurricane Katrina Evacuees

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. - With their TVs, radios and computers left behind in storm-damaged homes or completely swept away, the survivors of Hurricane Katrina may be the least-informed about the recovery and relief operations currently underway in the Gulf Coast area.

But a delivery of 10,000 AM/FM radios - batteries included - from U.S. Northern Command may help alleviate that situation.

"The intent is to get these radios to the population so they can hear what's happening," said U.S. Army Col. Nick Buechler, USNORTHCOM's Logistics and Engineering Division Interagency Chief. "The rest of the world is watching on CNN - but the local people can't watch. As a result, they don't know that help's on the way."

The survivors' access to information became critical in the aftermath of the storm but was severely curtailed by hurricane-related infrastructure dam-

age. In considering the problem, USNORTHCOM Commander Adm. Timothy J. Keating proposed providing radios to those living in the affected area. The contracting division of USNORTHCOM's Logistics and Engineering Directorate accepted the challenge of providing those affected by the disaster with a means of "tuning in" to the recovery and relief effort.

"Not knowing what's going on is the loneliest feeling in the world," said U.S. Air Force Col. Lewis Thrasher, Chief of the USNORTHCOM Contracting Division. "People are desperate for information. This shipment of radios is just one small way Adm. Keating feels we can help."

The first 3,280 radios and batteries were picked up Sept. 6 by members of the Mississippi National Guard at the Wal-Mart Distribution Center in Brookhaven, Miss., and brought to the FEMA distribution center in Brookhaven, Miss. Another 6,520 radios and batteries were purchased

from Wal-Mart, which delivered them directly to the FEMA distribution center in Jackson, Miss. on Sept. 7. Mississippi Army National Guard troops and FEMA Volunteer Services have begun distributing the radios as widely as possible, along with food and other supplies. The radios and batteries were ordered with the assistance of the 21st Space Wing Contracting Office on Peterson Air Force Base. USNORTHCOM is funding the \$60,000 purchase and will be reimbursed through the hurricane disaster supplemental recently approved by the U.S. Congress. As directed by the Secretary of Defense and in accordance with the National Response Plan, USNORTHCOM is supporting the Dept. of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) disaster relief efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The Dept. of Defense is fully engaged in supporting the massive interagency effort to save lives, reduce suffering and protect the infrastructure of the homeland.

Military Relief Hotlines

Military One Support Number (All services) 1-800-342-9647

U.S. Marines
1-800-847-1597

U.S. Army
1-800-626-3317

National Guard
1-888-777-7731

U.S. Air Force/Keesler AFB
1-800-435-9941

U.S. Navy
1-877-414-5358

DFAS Customer Contact Center
1-888-332-7411

Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Service Center 1-877-272-7337

Notes of interest for Hurricane evacuees

Branch Medical Clinic Meridian

The clinic is closed on weekends and holidays. We do have a duty crew who can take your calls for emergencies at 601-679-2633.

School uniform donations requested

With school children in the local area now wearing uniforms to school, a need exists for uniform clothing for the children. Items requested are: khaki or navy blue pants; red, white and blue polo shirts. School uniform donations can be taken to the Fleet and Family Support Center.

Evacuees with friends in Navy Family Housing

All evacuees who are staying in Navy Family Housing with friends or family who have not registered with the co-located Housing and Evacuation Offices should go to the Housing Office and do so.

What about school for the children?

School registration for evacuated children is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, Sept 8 from 9am-12pm. Call FFSC at 601-679-2360

Can I get a job while I'm here?

Temporary employment opportunities may be available if you are interested in working while you are here. Please check with the Fleet and Family Service Center for job information.

Can I volunteer to help while I'm here

The American Red Cross needs helpers for various tasks in several locations. Please call 601-485-5151. FFSC is also accepting volunteers. Contact Stacey Jemison at 601-679-2360.

Donations needed by Red Cross and Others

Donations of food, drinks, diapers, formula, and personal hygiene items should go to Frank Cochran Center.

How do I register for WIC?

You can contact the WIC office at 601-693-2451. It is located at 5224 Valley Street behind the Mississippi Highway Patrol Office on Highway 19N in the College Park area. You also can contact the Greater Meridian Health Clinic at 601-693-0118. It is located at 2701 Davis St., which is near St. Patrick's Church.

Navy College

If you are unable to attend classes because of command obligations or a lack of internet access, contact Navy College. All on-base classes will be moved off base. Call 601-679-2671 or your local college for more info. MCC students begin night classes immediately. Contact Pam Peden 601-679-2450. EMCC classes will be held at Northeast Lauderdale High School at regular times. Call Loretta Boswell 601-679-3570.

Housing Residents

Please pile all yard debris at the curb for pickup. Do not place vinyl siding at curb. Notify Housing Maintenance for pickup. If you see a snake call Security at ext.2958 For maintenance emergencies call 601-938-7701. Regular calls dial 601-679-7001.

Military Family Locator Service

This service will be used to track and assist in locating affected families. Call 888-777-7731. You will need the individual's last name last four digits of their SSN.

Laundry Locations

Bldg. 218-C wing All three floors

Bldg. 203-lobby areas both floors

Bldg. 205-lobby areas both floors

Sunday Church Services at NAS Community Chapel

Protestant Sunday School: 9 a.m.

Protestant Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Catholic Mass: 5 p.m.

NAS Community Chapel Weekday Activities

Wednesday Prayer Luncheon: 11:15 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.

LDS Family Evening: 6 p.m.

Various Hours of Operation for on-base facilities

NEX: M-F, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun, 12:30-5 p.m.

Gas Station: 7 a.m.-7 p.m. daily -- no after hours sales

Country Store: 9 a.m.-9 p.m. daily

Commissary: Sept. 4, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Tues-Sat, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

NFCU: Sept. 3-5, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; M-F, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Citizen's Natl Bank: M-Th, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Fri, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society

The office is up and running in Bldg. 266, next door to the Fleet and Family Support Center. Hours of operation are Mon, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; Tue-Fri, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Services can be provided for active duty and retired Navy personnel and their families, and for all service personnel and their families. Services for reservists with less than 30 days active duty are authorized until Thursday.

Pharmacies

Winn Dixie: Closest to the base, 12 miles south of base along Hwy 39 on SE corner of Hwy 39 and North Hills Street (first light when traveling south on Hwy 39) -- on left when heading south. Open M-F, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sat, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Phone: 601-485-0818

Mr. Discount Pharmacy: Next the hospitals in downtown Meridian. Go south on Hwy 39 and as road forks, stay to the right and veer right as road forks again onto 14th St. Pharmacy is on left, across from Jeff Anderson Medical Center. Open every day from 8 a.m. until midnight. Phone: 601-693-1978

Hospitals

All three hospitals are within one to two blocks of each other in downtown Meridian -- travel south on Hwy 39 and as the highway moves back into the city, it will fork at one point and you will veer to the right. In approximately six blocks it will fork again, and you will veer to the right and take a right onto 14th St. Anderson is on the right and Rush on the left. Riley is behind Rush on Constitution Ave. and 12th St. Phone: Anderson, 601-553-6111; Riley, 601-484-3357; Rush, 601-703-9260

TRICARE Authorization Number

1-800-444-5445. If you have an emergency and need to be seen at an ER, you will need to contact your PCM after you return home to have a consult placed for authorization of that visit. Only your PCM can place those consults for you.

Beware of Fraudulent Web Sites

Over the past few days, domain names that redirect users to malicious websites have appeared online, in addition to email scams requesting donations for those impacted by the hurricane. While some of these sites and messages may be legitimate, many are not. At the time of this bulletin, please be aware that the following domains are reported to be suspicious: *katrina-help.com*; *katrinacleanup.com*; *katrinarelief.com*. Please note that this is not an exhaustive list and additional domains may continue to appear.

Federal Disaster Aid available for those suffering losses in designated areas

Designated Areas

Alabama: Baldwin, Mobile and Washington Counties

Louisiana: Acadia, Ascension, Assumption, Calcasieu, Cameron, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberia, Iberville, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Lafourche, Livingston, Orleans, Palquemes, Pointe Coupee, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John, St. Mary, St. Martin, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Vermilion, Washington, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana Parishes

Mississippi: Amite, Forrest, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Lamar, Marion, Pearl River, Perry, Pike, Stone, Walthall and Wilkinson Counties

Call FEMA to apply for assistance at 800-621-3362 or 800-462-7585 for the hearing impaired.

These numbers are for people in the designated federal disaster areas only.

Be prepared to give your Social Security number, describe your losses, provide

financial information, and give directions to the damaged property.

If you get a busy signal, try to call after 6 p.m. or on the weekend.

The information provided gets you in the system. An inspector will schedule an appointment and visit the property. You should be there. A housing assistance check will arrive in 7-10 days, if you are eligible. There may be an SBA application enclosed. You **MUST** fill out and return to be eligible for any further assistance.

The Daily Coastie News

Coastie News is provided by the coasties for the coasties

Donations: Food, clothing, toys and diapers are coming to the Family Support Center. Contact 601-679-2358/2360. Or contact Gail Meyers at 601-679-4090.

Coast Guard Housing Support: contact Gloria Cokel at 601-679-5551 or 604-483-3968. Also contact Cindy Vasquez at 601-679-9726.

Credit Union: Make an appointment. The Navy Federal Credit Union is open from 0900-1400. For all pay, travel and evacuation questions call the "People Cell" at 314-539-3900 EXT. 2337, 2338, 2340. See the Navy Relief Society for Mutual Assistance loans.

Loans are available for over \$500.

Legal: Legal assistance is available for setting up wills and powers of attorney at the CBQ.

Belle Chase Academy: The Business Manager of BCA needs to contact MKCS Myers at 601-679-2530.

1. The Navy Relief Society has authority for evacuees that have lost household goods on a case by case basis. Contact Kelli Dickman at 601-679-2504

2. BellSouth 1-888-757-6500

3. Galaxy Cablevision 1-800-365-6988

4. Personnel in housing:

Your address is:

Your name

Your house number and street
Meridian, MS 39305

6. UDC phone number is 1-800-874-6841

8. Dependents are reminded to check with medical to change your Primary Care Manager. ALL dependants please contact Gail Myers at 601-679-9921 or at 809 Hull St.

9. Coast Guard Ombudsman is Gail Myers at 809 Hull St. Contact 504-957-1642 or starting Friday at 601-679-9921. Any spouses who wish to volunteer to assist with donations, contact the Ombudsman

10. MLC entitlements will be here on Friday, 09SEP05, to talk with active duty and dependants.

The Hurricane Katrina Help Line Telephone number is 1-757-889-6440 and will be manned 24/7 until further notice. Please refer all requests for evacuation orders, evacuation allowance payments, advance pay(military only), and EFT special payments(military only) to the PSD Afloat Hurricane Katrina Help Line

Safe Tips for Bad Weather

Thunderstorms pose many hazards. They produce lightning and hail. Their torrential rains can trigger floods; their strong winds can create deadly tornadoes.

You have to worry about them when they get to be "severe," which the National Weather Service defines as having winds of more than 57 mph and/or hail about the size of a marble. About 100,000 thunderstorms occur in the U.S. each year; 10 percent become severe. Every state has thunderstorms.

1. Stay tuned to the latest weather forecast, and listen for watches and warnings for tornadoes and floods.

2. If the weather service issues a watch:

- Tie down lawn chairs, picnic tables and trash cans, bring them inside.
- Park your car under an awning or inside a garage.
- Close windows and draw the blinds or curtains.
- This precaution will lessen the hazard of flying glass if a window gets broken.

3. Listen to radio or television for warnings.

4. Just before and during the storm, count ten seconds between seeing lightning and hearing thunder. If this

time is 30 seconds or less, then the lightning is a threat. Seek shelter. After seeing the last lightning flash, wait 30 minutes before leaving shelter. More than half of the people killed by lightning died after the storm passed.

Tornadoes are a frequent weather occurrence in Mississippi. One of the most important things you can do to prevent being to move in and the weather begins to look stormy, turn on the local radio or television channel to get the local weather forecast.

Know the difference between a Tornado Watch and a Tornado Warning.

Tornado WATCH.

If a tornado watch is issued for the area, it means a tornado is possible and approximately 25 miles away. Stay alert!

Tornado WARNING.

If a tornado warning is issued, it means that a tornado has been sighted or is strongly indicated on radar, and it time to go to a safe shelter immediately. A tornado alert will be signaled by the tornado status.

NAS siren warning system. The warning signal is a three to five minute uninterrupted blast, which means immediate danger. If time

permits, NAS security personnel will pass through the Family Housing Areas to notify residents of the tornado status.

Shelter.

If inside, stay inside! Seek shelter in the first floor hallways, small interior rooms bathrooms, or other protected places away from windows.

If in the open, lie flat in a ditch or low-lying area.

If in a car, get out and take shelter as above.

Tornado ALL CLEAR

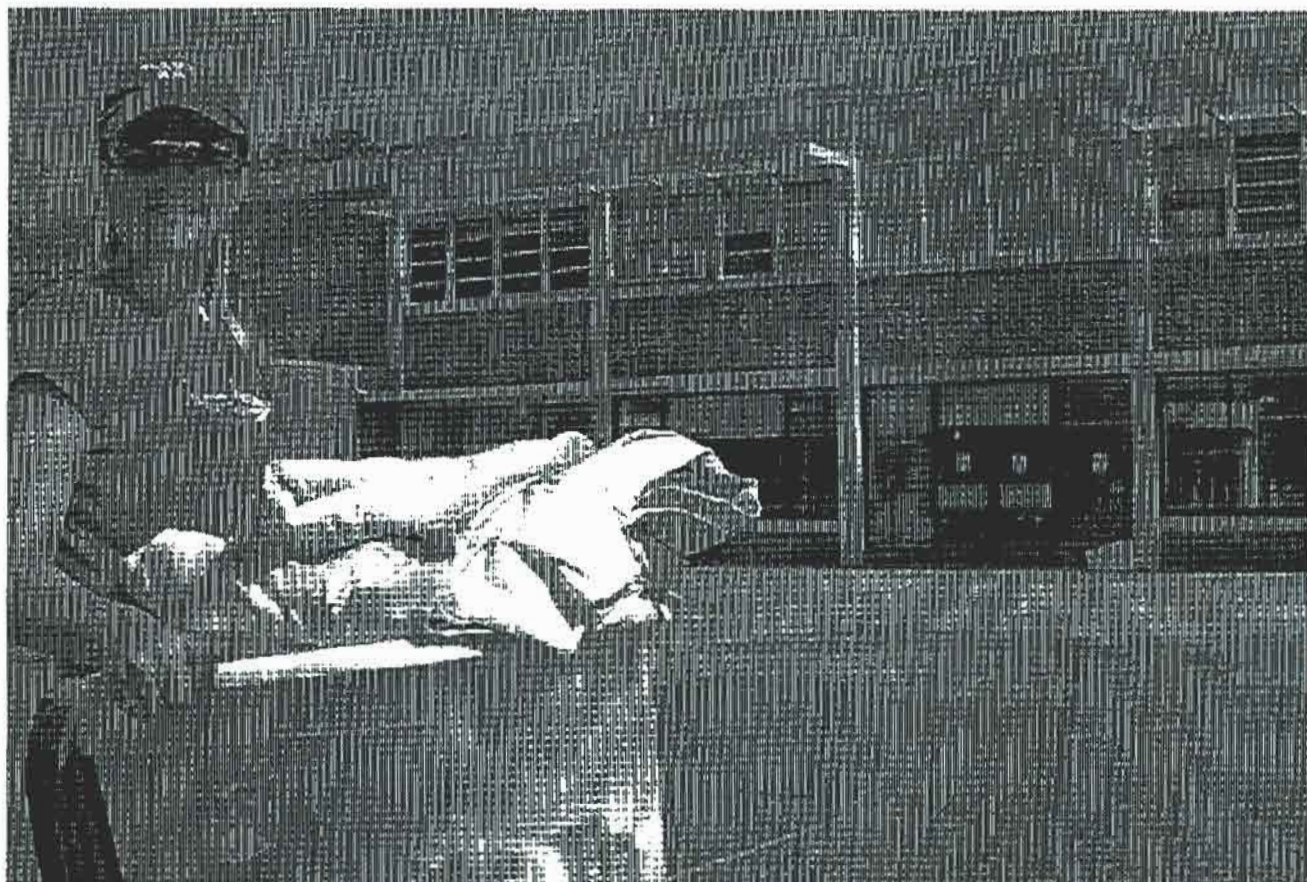
After the storm passes, an all clear signal will be sounded which indicates there is no longer a threat. The all-clear signal consists of four five-second intermittent siren blast. Be careful to watch for fallen power lines and debris as you leave your residence. Listen to the radio for any further information.

What should you do Now? Prepare your family's "disaster supplies kit" Red Cross recommend your kit contain the following items:

- A first aid kit with essential medication in addition to the usual items.
- A battery powered flashlight, radio, and extra batteries.
- Canned and other non-perishable food and a hand operated opener.
- Bottled water.
- Sturdy shoes and work gloves.

Navy 24-hour help line for family info & muster 1-877-414-5358

Family info or for help, call Red Cross 1-866-GET-INFO



EVACUATION DONATION CENTER OPENING SEPT 8

(BETWEEN THE NAVY EXCHANGE AND CITIZEN'S NATIONAL BANK)

**CENTER WILL BE OPEN SEPT 8-16
MON-SAT FROM 9 AM-1 PM**

ACCEPTING DONATIONS

CLOTHING
SHOES
SCHOOL UNIFORMS
SCHOOL SUPPLIES
BACKPACKS
SMALL APPLIANCES

LINENS
FURNITURE
MILITARY UNIFORMS
HOUSEWARES
LAMPS
TOYS

DIAPERS
NURSERY FURNI
TURE
TOILETRIES
NON-PERISHABLE
FOOD ITEMS

Sponsored by NAS Meridian spouses' clubs

LAUDERDALE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Student Dress Code Policy

Northeast Elementary

2005-2006 School Year

TOPS/SHIRTS:

Solid color tops only (three school colors—red, white, gray)

Style:

Short or long sleeve polo

Short or long sleeve oxford/blouse

Sweaters

Note:

Jumpers for Elementary Students

Shirts must be worn tucked into the pants on all boys (Exceptions may be made based on the principal's discretion)

Sweaters must be worn over an approved top

Only pre-approved school logos will be allowed on tops

Prohibited:

No brand logos

No denim

No sleeveless tops

No label, insignia, print, writing or monogramming may appear on tops (other than the school insignia/logo)

BOTTOMS:

Solid colors – Khaki or Black

(Plaid acceptable in school colors for jumpers or skirts)

Style:

"Docker" style pants/shorts—pleated or flat front

Skirts/Skorts—pleated or flat front

Capris—pleated or flat front

Note:

Pants must be worn with a belt through the belt loops and properly fastened

Belts must be worn with skirts/skorts/pants if belt loops are present

All bottoms must be hemmed

Pants must fit properly and cannot be more than one size too big

Skirts, skorts, and shorts must not exceed 4 inches above the knee

Prohibited:

No cargo pants (exception K-4)

No flared legs

No spandex, polyester or other tight fitting bottoms

No warm up suits

*No over length styles
No sagging
No holes, cuts, or tears are permitted*

FOOTWEAR:

Note:
All shoes must be properly tied or fastened

Prohibited:
No flip-flops

JACKETS:

Note:
*Jackets can be no longer than mid-thigh
Lightweight jackets/sweaters should be in school colors or black or khaki
School letter jackets are allowed
Heavyweight coats are allowed in any color*

Prohibited:
Dusters/long coats

EXCEPTIONS TO THE DRESS CODE:

Students may wear an approved top that associates that student with an athletic team or activity group on a given day that corresponds with an event associated with a team sport or activity. Students may wear approved apparel other than the approved dress code on days associated with special school functions or activities designated by the administration.

ACCESSORIES:

All guidelines concerning accessories are covered in the student handbook.

IN ALL INSTANCES, THE STYLE AND MANNER IN WHICH CLOTHING IS WORN AND THE WAY IN WHICH CLOTHING FITS, WILL DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATENESS OR INAPPROPRIATENESS OF THE DRESS CODE.

New Students:

Upon enrollment during the school year, a student will have five (5) school days in which to comply with the dress code. Administration may grant additional time due to extenuating circumstances.

Note:

Vendors will show samples at Northeast Elementary—dates to be announced. Items may be purchased at that time or may be purchased from Sears, J. C. Penny, McRae's, Dillards, Walmart, Dollar Store, etc.